

THE PILOT



Commander's Column

Cdr Barbara Jones AP*

FEBRUARY 2015

Thanks for Your Support

Now that I have served as the Main Line Commander for almost a year, I can reflect back on many happy experiences during that time. I have thoroughly enjoyed being commander and had lots of fun and laughs along the way. Any new job is challenging and needs to be addressed professionally, but thankfully there are many members who want to help the commander and the squadron succeed. If I attempted to name everyone who contributed, this article would be many pages long. So I would just like to say a sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to our squadron's success this year. Incoming commanders and bridge members should feel encouraged that we have so many dedicated members in our squadron who will pitch in when asked.

When I look back at everything that we did over the past year, I get a great feeling that it was all worthwhile. The Change of Watch launched my year as commander and I was off and running. Of course the very first thing that followed was the District 5 Spring Conference in Ocean City, Maryland where we performed our Gilligan's Island skit. What a blast! Then came our Summer Kickoff and Vets rendezvous at Skipjack Cove, followed by Main Line's Summer Cruise on the Chesapeake. There were also monthly dinner meetings with guest speakers leading up to the Holiday Party with a visit from Santa Claus.

I sincerely hope that everyone had as much fun as I did. Being commander brings with it the responsibilities of a leader, but once again, with so many volunteers ready to help it was easy and fun. Teamwork is one of the strengths of our squadron. Main Line Sail & Power Squadron has an abundance of talented members willing to give their time to our worthy cause -- safe boating education. We may plan a lot of fun activities but I have always felt our true mission was to provide safe boating education and ultimately

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2014-2015 Bridge

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Continued from Page 1

save lives on the water. That is why I joined Main Line and will continue to serve in the coming years.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for making the year a success, and helping the squadron fulfill its mission of safe boating education. I will be forever thankful for the opportunity to serve you and Main Line.

The Main Line Pilot

The title of the newsletter is sometimes abbreviated as *The Pilot* or *Pilot*. It is published in February, April, May, August, October and December.

Editor

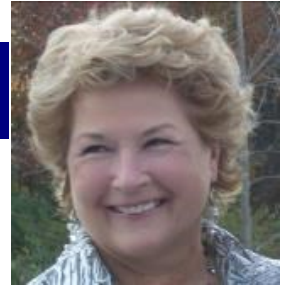
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The Pilot is also on the web at www.mainlinesps.org.



Preparing for the Year Ahead

I have been very busy getting organized for the next year as my term quickly approaches. Planning the calendar, cruise destinations, Spring Conference hospitality suite event, and the budget, as well as turning the Pilot over to a new editor, have been challenging. However, I am used to being busy, so I am fitting it all into my schedule. I will try to give you an update on each of these things in this month's newsletter.

The calendar and budget are fairly routine and I will be meeting with the officers to gather input into their needs and discuss events that should be included in the calendar. Our budget is in good shape, especially since we will be printing a much smaller number of Pilots for our members. I would like to continue to focus on our educational program and continue to build the membership by trying out new ideas, or old ideas with a new twist. If you have any of either, please sit and chat with me.

Our Summer Cruise, July 10-19, will include stops at Annapolis, Tilghman Island, Herrington Harbor, St. Michaels, Kent Island, and Rock Hall. Trust me, you will have a great time, so please consider coming by land or sea and block out the dates in your summer schedule. The cruise destinations have been planned to minimize your use of fuel, and include places where you could come by land if you are between boats. We will have a new stop this year at the Kent Island Yacht Club. I will have my Commander's Cocktail Party there under the pavilion, next to the pool. The Club will have dinner and live entertainment afterwards.

At the D5 Spring Conference a committee is working on our game night. Visitors to our hospitality suite will participate in a challenging game which will test their knowledge of navigational facts and lore. We are creating an online spinner that will be used to sort questions and challenges as teams navigate their "boats" across the Chesapeake Bay. Feel free to join us at the conference and participate in planning meetings. All of the planning meetings are listed in the Pilot calendar. All are welcome.

Scott Borzell has agreed to take over for me as co-editor of the Pilot. I am grateful to Scott for his efforts and I am sure he and Ginny will continue to produce an award-winning publication.

In addition to our usual dinner meetings and weeklong cruise, I would like to continue some of the activities that Barb started last year with a mini cruise and some land events. If you have ideas, please let me know. While I am only in the thinking phase of planning, my thoughts are leaning toward an event in Philadelphia, such as a visit to the Independence Seaport Museum, plus some mini cruises possibly to Baltimore, Chesapeake City, and Great Oak Landing (with a picnic on the beach). I would also like to join in some events at Chesapeake Bay Yacht Clubs since John and I have reciprocal privileges (from a yacht club) that allow us to attend and bring friends.

I will also be attending the Officer's Training Day in California MD on Saturday, February 21, as I learn the responsibilities of being your Commander. I am very excited about all of these plans and look forward to seeing you at many of them.



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Lt/C Charles Rossi P

Founders — and our next meeting

Our Founders Day dinner was held at the Desmond in Great Valley. Once again P/C Russ Jones did a fabulous job handling the setup and dinner, and also taking the role of speaker.

Russ gave a fascinating, humorous and carefully researched presentation touching on life 50 years ago at the start of our power squadron, describing aspects of navigation today, and offering some entertaining glimpses into what we might see in 2065. Sue Friedrichs shared photos from squadron events in years past, that recalled memories of former members and showed some current members (and their children) frolicking on sail and power cruises.

Our February dinner meeting will be held at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia on Thursday, February 19. Cocktails begin at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7:30 pm.

Our speaker will be Commander Robert W. Speight, USN. Commander Speight's initial assignment at sea was Main Propulsion Assistant aboard USS *Elrod* (FFG 55). He also served as Damage Control Assistant and Ship's Training Officer during the tour. He later served as Main Propulsion Assistant aboard USS *Moosbrugger* (DD 980). Commander Speight was assigned to US Seventh Fleet in South America participating in Operation SEA ANGEL and USNS MERCY Pacific Partnership.

Don't miss meeting this fascinating man and learning about his experiences on Thursday, February 19 at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia. Use the form on Page 8 to sign up.



Commander Robert W. Speight



We've got it covered in Spring classes

Boating courses covering topics ranging from trailer hitches to cruising the Bahamas are on deck this Spring from the MLSPS Education Department. The schedule includes two advanced courses, Cruising/Cruise Planning, and Piloting, as well as several sessions of America's Boating Course.

Here's the rundown:

Piloting

This course introduces coastal and inland navigation, and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while also covering traditional techniques. The course includes many in-class, hands-on exercises involving charts and their interpretation; navigation aids; plotting courses, determining direction and distance; the mariner's compass, and converting between true and magnetic. Use of GPS, including typical GPS displays and information they provide, is emphasized.

Instructor: Russ Jones

7-9 p.m. Mondays, starting March 9 (7 nights)

Phoenixville Middle School

Register: Chestercountynightschool.org

Cost: \$95 (\$40 registration, \$55 materials)

Information: Russ Jones, 610-873-1576

Cruising and Cruise Planning

Topics include choosing a cruising boat; electronics and navigation; meals and provisioning; cruising in foreign waters, and entering foreign ports. MLSPS members will weigh in with their experiences while cruising the Caribbean, Virgin Islands, Bahamas, Delmarva Peninsula, and the Intracoastal Waterway.

Instructor: Russ Jones

7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, starting March 10 (7 nights)

Stetson Middle School, West Chester

Register: Chestercountynightschool.org

Cost: \$95 (\$40 registration, \$55 materials)

Information: Russ Jones, 610-873-1576

More classes on Page 6

The Pilot

Spring MLSPS classes *(Continued from Page 5)*

America's Boating Course:

ABC covers the basics of recreational boating, both power and sail, and satisfies requirements in all 50 states to obtain a boating safety certificate. Topics include marine charts, aids to navigation, marine electronics including GPS and VHF, trailering, safety on the water, life jackets, use of personal watercraft (jet skis), anchoring and emergency situations. For adults and children 12 and up.

Because of its popularity, this class is being offered at several times and locations. All courses cover the same material, whether offered in four 2-hour sessions or as a full-day class.

Instructor: Nick Montalto

Phoenixville Middle School

7-9 p.m. Mondays, starting March 9 (4 nights)

Register: Chestercountynightschool.org

Cost: \$65 (\$40 registration, \$25 materials)

Delaware County Community College, Marple Campus

7-9 p.m. Thursdays, starting April 2 (4 nights)

Register: DCCC.org

Cost: \$47, covers registration and materials

Clews & Strawbridge, Frazer

Saturday, April 11. Call 610-644-3529

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (1-day session). Date is tentative.

Stoltzfus Marine, West Chester

Saturday, April 18. Call 610-399-0628

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (1-day session). Date is tentative.

Clews & Strawbridge, Frazer

Saturday, May 2. Call 610-644-3529

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. (1-day session). Date is tentative.

Information: Nick Montalto, 610-308-1235



FLEET CAPTAIN

P/C Jim Friedrichs JN

Downrigging event was damp but fun

Chestertown, MD celebrated its 14th annual Sultana Downrigging Weekend – Tall Ship and Wooden Boat Festival on the weekend October 31-November 2. Sue and I were able to enjoy the hospitality and tour guidance of PC George and Carol Nelson for the event.

The weather for the weekend was a typical fall boater's forecast, with a cold front-created storm passing through midweek followed by the trailing edge for the weekend. The weekend began with the last of the rain from the front and then the wind picked up to sufficient intensity to cause cancellation of the weekend's sailing events. The tall ships could tolerate the winds, but the Chester River was too confining to allow them to navigate safely.

Since the public sails were cancelled, the ships held free open houses for visitors. Participating crafts included the schooners *Sultana*, *Lady Maryland*, *Pride of Baltimore II* and *A.J. Meerwald*, and the pinnace *Kalmar Nyckel*. A number of smaller wooden boats also participated, including the sharp schooner *E.E. Moore* and the vintage catboat *Silent Maid*.

The host ship and organization were the *Sultana* and the Sultana Education Foundation; both are based in Chestertown.



The Sultana, a reproduction of a 1768 schooner used by the British Royal Navy to enforce the hated taxes on tea taxes in colonial America.

Editor's note: Photos of downrigging weekend and participating boats appear on the website www.oldsaltblog.com, as well as the Sultana Educational Foundation's site:

<http://sultanaeducation.org/public-programs/sultana-public-sails/downrigging-weekend-2/>



MLSPS February Dinner Meeting **Peppers Italian Restaurant**

DATE: Thursday, February 19, 2015
TIME: Cocktails: 6:30 pm Dinner: 7:30 pm
PLACE: Peppers Italian Restaurant
ADDRESS: 239 Town Center Rd., King of Prussia, PA 19406 610-265-2416
COST: \$39.00 per person
RSVP: February 14, 2015
TO: Lt/C Charles Rossi
504 Beidler Road King of Prussia, PA 19406
610-962-0681 charlesrossi@comcast.net

U.S. Navy Commander Robert Speight will be our guest speaker for the February dinner meeting. Commander Robert Speight enlisted in the Navy in September 1989. He served as an Electronics Technician (Submarines) before being accepted into the Seaman to Admiral Program. He was commissioned an Ensign through Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL where he reported to Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, RI. A more complete bio is available on Page 4. **Commander Speight is currently Officer-in-Charge NSA Philadelphia.**

Please plan to attend our February meeting to welcome Commander Speight. It will be a great honor having the OIC NSA Philadelphia at our dinner meeting. A big turnout will ensure that the evening is a success and that Commander Speight will feel welcome.

Main Line Sail & Power Squadron Dinner Reservation

Name(s): _____

Check amount: Total # dinners _____ at \$39 each Total \$ _____

Appetizers: Bruschetta and Antipasto

Garden Salad: Included with the meal

Entrée Choice: ___ Penne Pasta with Roasted Chicken

___ Chicken Parmesan

___ Baked Cod over Rice

All entrées served with broccoli, new potatoes and vegetable medley.

Dessert: Tray of desserts

Please make checks payable to Main Line Sail & Power Squadron. We need to commit to the total number of attendees by February 14, 2015

You can have some serious fun with this trainer



The trainer has three 20" monitors, steering wheel, horn and throttle with trim

Want to test your boating skills when there's no wind, current or seriously expensive craft nearby? Want to see how you execute a pivot turn in high wind and rain? At night? Without getting wet?

Here's one way — and it's free:

Main Line will have the Boating Skills Virtual Trainer at the Philadelphia Boat Show from Friday, March 13 to Sunday, March 15. If you cannot make the boat show, you can take the wheel of the Virtual Trainer at Russ and Barb Jones' residence on Thursday, March 19 or the Montaltos' home on Wednesday, March 25, both from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Let them know you're coming: wrjones3@verizon.com or nickmontalto@gmail.com.

The Virtual Trainer is educational, fun and easy to use. It is primarily for new boaters with little experience at the helm, but it can also be helpful to more experienced boaters since there are more advanced scenarios for wind and current, day and night, and for use of trim tabs.

Come out to the Boat Show and stop by the Main Line booth. Our members staff the booth — contact Nick Montalto about the times available. If you can't stay for a shift, stop by to see our displays. The Virtual Trainer will be available to everyone. And you can enjoy the show as well!

The show will be at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks. Show hours are Friday 1 to 8 pm; Saturday 10 am to 7 pm, and Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

*CHANGE OF WATCH
AND
COMMANDER'S DINNER*

in honor of

Barbara A. Jones

The Change of Watch ceremony is the Main Line Sail & Power Squadron members' opportunity to support our organization and to honor our leaders. The Change of Watch marks the official installation of the new Bridge Officers for the upcoming year. The ceremony also allows us to thank the outgoing officers, especially our **MLSPS Commander, Barbara Jones**, and others, for a job well done.

Main Line will also have the honor of the presence of a District 5 bridge officer, to assist in the installation of our next commander, **Susan Woron**. Please attend to show how Main Line Sail & Power Squadron members support our Squadron and District by coming out for the Change of Watch. The Change of Watch ceremony will be a brief highlight of an enjoyable evening.

Make checks payable to:
Main Line Sail & Power Squadron

Mail to:
Lt/C Charles Rossi
504 Beidler Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406



Date: Saturday, 21 March, 2015

Location: Whitford Country Club, Downingtown, PA 19335

Time: Cocktails at 1800 (6 pm); Dinner at 1900 (7 pm); Ceremony at 2000 (8 pm)

Dress: USPS Class A Uniform (optional), blue blazer or other appropriate attire

Change of Watch Dinner Reservation — Please RSVP by March 14

Name(s): _____

Check amount: \$ _____ (\$39 per adult; \$12 per child age 12 or under) Children's Menu provided

Entrée selections: ___ Chicken Wellington (chicken wrapped in puff pastry with a mushroom duxelle)
___ Baked Salmon (with citrus soy glaze, wild rice pilaf, and asparagus)
___ Baked Pretzel Crusted Tilapia
___ Vegetarian option available

Dessert: New York style Cheesecake with fresh berries

The Pilot

Learning Some Important (Expensive) Lessons: Trailer the Fegan Way

By Lisa Fegan

Bruce Fegan has been trailering work trailers of various sizes and weights for the past 25 years. His experiences are valuable for our present boat and trailer, but did not prepare us for their size and weight.

We been trailering our boat, *It's About Time*, for the last seven years and have learned some very expensive lessons.

NOW we have it down to a science. We trailer our boat from King of Prussia to Philadelphia, the Chesapeake and all the way down to Florida.

Here are a few lessons we have learned along the way due to constant research in the safest way possible.

The very first thing we did was purchase a tow vehicle that could handle the largest legal (without permits) trailerable boat. After long research on the internet and at boat shows we chose a 27 ft. Doral which gave us the features we wanted and weighs in at 8,000 pounds. The boat came with a tri-axle Nex Trail trailer rated for 10,000 pound total weight capacity.

Then our fun began.

After many e-mails and phone calls we secured a loan, arranged to meet with the seller (in Lake Ann, Ala.) and towed the boat home. For the next couple of years we had issues with the trailer, bad bearings, axle replacements, brake issues and excessive tire wear. We realized that the trailer rating of 10,000 pounds was too low. So, on a trip to Florida we had to replace all 6 tires, once again.

That was it for us. We had enough of those problems and decided to replace the trailer with one with a higher weight rating. We found Boat Master in Fort Myers, Fla., a trailer manufacturer that builds trailers for the military.

They built a trailer custom made to our boat specifications. One of the features we designed was a cutout on the bunks of the trailer for lift straps so the boat can be lifted off the trailer for repairs. Without the cutouts, because of the weight of the boat, they have to inch the boat off the trailer – which is extremely expensive.

Other trailer features are: custom locking mechanism for the ball, hydraulic electric brakes, teardrop suspension, bunks for the hull, custom tie down loops and hooks, 6" aluminum I beam frame and all stainless steel and brass hardware. Trailer rating – 14,000 pounds.



Continued on Page 12

Learning to Trailer the Fegan Way (Continued from Page 11)

Here is a checklist we go through before trailering:

- Perform an overall inspection
- Grease the bearings for the wheels
- Check all attached straps for tension (we have 6 total — 3 in the front, 2 in the back and a strap that helps support the out drive; 5 of the 6 straps are rated at 10,000 pounds each)
- Check tires for nicks, bulges, cuts; check the air pressure in all tires including the spare
- Pull the pin for the emergency breakaway – to insure battery is operational (so if the trailer comes off the ball while we're driving, the brakes would automatically lock up to stop the trailer)

Hooking up the trailer to the vehicle:

- Ask someone to stand behind the truck as a guide to help you line up the trailer with the truck receiver
- Hook up the 7-prong plug (includes lights, brakes, and battery charger)
- Hook up safety chains in a cross pattern
- Attach the emergency breakaway cable
- Check all trailer lights to ensure all lights and breaks are working correctly
- Remove chocks
- Remove any external power
- Install the drain plug

We have had the Boat Master trailer (Bubba) for five years, traveled approximately 30,000 miles, replaced the tires once and the breakaway battery twice. You have to make sure that the tow vehicle is rated high enough to tow the combined weight of the boat and the trailer, with a 20% cushion. Also, you need to make sure that the trailer is rated high enough for the boat weight with a 20% cushion.

Happy Trailering!





MLSPS 50th Anniversary Apparel

Great for gifts and to update your boating wardrobe
Jackets, shirts, hats, bags and burgees are available, embroidered with the MLSPS new logo

See complete details and colors on our website, then order!

- Unisex Jacket, Sizes XS—4XL, available in 4 colors, \$75; Item J768
- Polo shirts for men (D140P and women (D140W) in pima cotton, multiple colors, \$39
- MLSPS burgee with gold trim, available in 2 sizes, \$50 and \$76
- Tote bag, blue with our Main Line logo, \$25



ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Item #	Description	Size	Quantity	Unit Price	Total

Includes shipping and handling

SUBTOTAL _____

TOTAL _____

ORDER CONTACT:

Lisa Fegan, MLSPS SUPPLY OFFICER

579 Powderhorn Road

King of Prussia, PA 19406

PHONE: 610-337-4785

EMAIL: lbfegan@verizon.net

Keep Your Roster Information Current



Patty Pezely

**Do you have any changes to
your information in the Roster?**



Name	
Spouse	
Cert #	
Year joined	
Address	
City	
State	
Zip	
Home Phone	
Bus. Phone	
Email	
Boat Name	
Size	
Type	
Marina	
City	

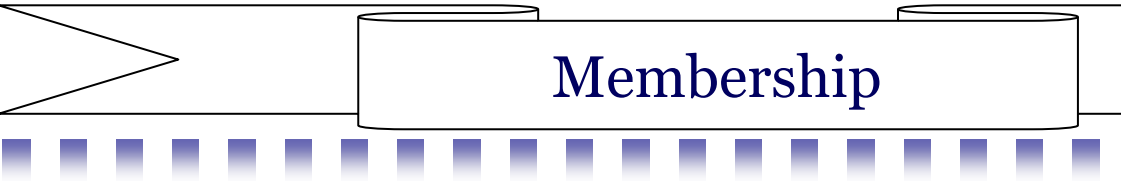
Stay Current!

Contact Patty to update
your information.

By mail:
Patty Pezely
130 Oakwood Lane
Phoenixville, PA 19460

By email:
patty.pezely@gmail.com

By phone:
leave a detailed message at
610-917-9092



Membership

P/C Sue Friedrichs SN



Changing your information in the USPS database:

Go to the USPS.org website and click on “Member Stuff”. Click on Logon. You will need your member number (E ----- plus your pin#), which is on your bill. Follow directions on “Member Stuff”, if you don’t have your pin. Call national headquarters to get your pin if you still have a problem. Once you’re on the site, there is a list of options on the left. Scroll down to “Membership Information” and to “Manage Your Account”. This will bring up all your information. You can change anything that is incorrect. However, if you wish to merge any family members into a family account, please contact me with the names and birthdates, and I will do that for you. Contact me at Sfriedrichs2@verizon.net.



2015 - 2016
CALENDAR



FEBRUARY 2015

- 4 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA, 7:30 pm
Location moved to Room 201 (2nd floor)
- 8 Planning Meeting for the D5 Spring Conference, Susan Woron's home,
3:30 pm
- 15 Organizational meeting for 2015-16, Susan Woron's home, 4:00 pm
- 19 Dinner Meeting at Pepper's Italian Restaurant, King of Prussia
- 21 D5 Officer's Training in California, MD

MARCH

- 4 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA, 7:30 pm
- 8 Planning Meeting for the D5 Spring Conference, Susan's home,
3:30 pm
- 9 Piloting Class begins, Phoenixville Middle School (4 weeks), 7-9 pm
- 9 ABC Class begins, Phoenixville Middle School (4 weeks), 7-9 pm
- 10 Cruising and Cruise Planning Class begins, Stetson Middle School, West
Chester (4 weeks), 7-9 pm
- 13-15 Greater Philadelphia Boat Show, Oaks, PA
- 21 Change of Watch, Whitford Country Club, Exton, PA
- 27-29 D5 Spring Conference, Ocean City, MD

APRIL

- 1 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA, 7:30 pm
- 2 ABC Class begins, Delaware County Community College (4 weeks) 7-9 pm
- 11 ABC One-Day Class, Clews & Strawbridge, Frazer, 8:30 am—4 pm
- 16 Dinner Meeting at the Ship Inn, Exton, PA
- 17 -19 Bay Bridge Boat Show, Stevensville, MD

Continued on Page 16



2015 - 2016
CALENDAR



- 16 ABC One-Day Class, Stolfus Marine, West Chester, 8:30 am—4 pm
- 24-26 Annapolis Spring Sailboat Show

MAY

- 2 ABC One-Day Class, Clews & Strawbridge, Frazer, 8:30 am—4 pm
- 6 ExCom Meeting, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA, 7:30 pm
- 16-22 National Safe Boating Week
- 20 Delaware River Educational Cruise
- 21 Pre-cruise Dinner Meeting

JUNE

- 3 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
Summer Kick off Rendezvous , Date to be determined
- 18 Dinner Meeting

JULY

- 1 NO Ex Com
- 10-19 Summer Cruise
D5 District Cruise

AUGUST

- 5 Commander's Picnic

SEPTEMBER

- 2 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 17 Dinner Meeting
Sassafras Harbor Marina Fest

Continued on Page 17



2015 - 2016
CALENDAR



OCTOBER

- 7 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 15 Dinner Meeting
- 8-12 Annapolis Sail Boat Show
- 15-18 Annapolis Power Boat Show
- Merit Mark Deadline
- 30- Nov. 1 D5 Fall Educational Conference in Cherry Hill, NJ

NOVEMBER

- 4 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA

DECEMBER

- 2 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 12 Holiday Party

JANUARY 2016

- 6 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 21 Founder's Day Dinner
- D5 Spring Conference Planning Meeting
- USPS Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL

FEBRUARY

- 3 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 18 Dinner Meeting
- D5 Winter Incoming Officer's Training

MARCH

- 2 ExCom, Paoli Presbyterian Church, Paoli, PA
- 17 Change of Watch Dinner